THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Representation of SC/ST Women in Judiciary

†1924. SHRI JANESHWAR MISRA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that representation of women belonging to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe is almost negligible in the Judiciary; and

(b) if so, whether Government will take steps to give reservation to these categories atleast in district courts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts is made under Articles 124 and 217 of the Constitution of India which do not provide for reservation for any class of persons.

(b) As per Articles 233, 234 and 235 of the Constitution of India, the matter relating to appointment, promotion and posting of persons in District and Subordinate Judiciary are within the purview of the respective State Governments and High Courts.

Employment of Disabled in Private Sector

1925. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that private sector is under no obligation legally to provide employment to the disabled;

(b) if so, whether there is a proposal for doing so;

(c) whether the publications to educate disabled on the benefit etc. available to them are published in English only; and

(d) if so, whether it would be done in other languages also?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir. According to the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995, only the appropriate Governments are required to make reservation of jobs in Government establishments.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The Ministry has brought out publications in English and Hindi languages, containing details of all the schemes/services being offered to the disabled persons by States/Union Territory Administrations and the Central Government. State Governments/U.T. Administrations have also been requested to bring out publications in relevant local languages.

Objective of NSK Commission

1926. SHRI N. THALAVAI SUNDARAM: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the objective for which the National Safai Karamchari Commission has been set up;

(b) whether Government have ever assessed its performance in the light of its objective, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) by when the present term of the Commission is due to expire; and

(d) whether Government have formed any view on extension or otherwise of its term, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) The basic objective for which the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis was set up is to promote and safeguard the interests and rights of Safai Karamcharis. The National Commission has, inter-alia, been empowered to investigate specific grievances and take suo moto notice on matters relating to non implementation of (a) programmes and schemes in respect of any group of Safai Karamcharis (b) decisions, guidelines or instructions